

STATE OF TENNESSEE
PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 535
HOUSE BILL NO. 343

By Representative Bone

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 986

By Senator Beavers

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 141 in Metropolitan Hartsville and Trousdale County in honor of the late Howell Wayne Burns.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Howell Wayne Burns, a Trousdale Countian who was killed while bravely serving his country in the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burns followed the patriotic tradition for which Trousdale County and the Volunteer State are renowned by serving with distinction in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, like thousands of others of this nation's sons and daughters, Howell Wayne Burns did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and liberty and combat the global spread of Communism; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Burns served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States Armed Forces, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Howell Wayne Burns' dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, and his country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, the Hartsville / Trousdale County Commission has petitioned this body to name a certain bridge on State Route 141 (Broadway Street) in their county to permanently commemorate the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of the late Howell Wayne Burns; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the bridge presently known as the "Little Goose Creek Bridge" that spans Goose Creek on State Route 141 (Broadway Street) in Metropolitan Hartsville and Trousdale County is hereby designated as the "Howell Wayne Burns Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Howell Wayne Burns.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Howell Wayne Burns Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: June 16, 2009



KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 25th day of June 2009



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR